

Claimed is:

1. An animal carrier product for carrying an animal on a cycle, the product being mounted to the cycle at a saddlebag position for increased stability and to accommodate a human passenger while the product is in use, the product comprising:

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a saddlebox for holding the animal, the saddlebox comprising:

an exposed section,

the exposed section for exposing the animal to the outside environment;

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a sheltered section,

the sheltered section for sheltering the animal from the outside environment;

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the exposed section and the sheltered section being connected together so that the animal can move autonomously from the exposed section to the sheltered section and so that the animal can move autonomously from the sheltered section to the exposed section, while the product is in use; and

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mounting means for mounting the product to the cycle at the saddlebag position.

2. The animal carrier product of claim 1 wherein the saddlebox further comprises:

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a window,

the window being connected to the exposed section;

the window being substantially transparent;

the window enabling the animal to view the outside environment.

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3. The animal carrier product of claim 1 wherein the product further comprises:

35 a deflector,

the deflector being connected to the product so that the deflector deflects direct sunlight and deflects strong wind from entering the exposed section.

4. An animal carrier product for carrying an animal on a cycle, the product being mounted to the cycle at a saddlebag position for increased stability and to accommodate a human passenger while the product is in use, the product comprising:

5 a saddlebox for holding the animal, the saddlebox comprising:

an exposed section,  
the exposed section for exposing the animal to the outside environment;

10 a sheltered section,  
the sheltered section for sheltering the animal from the outside environment;

15 the exposed section and the sheltered section being connected together so that the animal can move autonomously from the exposed section to the sheltered section and so that the animal can move autonomously from the sheltered section to the exposed section, while the product is in use; and

20 mounting means for mounting the product to the cycle at the saddlebag position, the mounting means being configured to enable the saddlebox to mount interchangeably with a commercially-available saddlebag cargo container.

25 5. The animal carrier product of claim 4 wherein the saddlebox further comprises:

a window,  
the window being connected to the exposed section;  
the window being substantially transparent;  
30 the window enabling the animal to view the outside environment.

6. The animal carrier product of claim 4 wherein the product further comprises:

35 a deflector,  
the deflector being connected to the product so that the deflector deflects direct sunlight and deflects strong wind from entering the exposed section.

7. An animal carrier product for carrying an animal on a cycle, the product mounted to the cycle at a saddlebag position for increased stability and to accommodate a human passenger while the product is in use, the saddlebox mounting to a commercially-available saddlebag mounting bracket that is pre-attached to the cycle, the saddlebox and a commercially-available saddlebag being interchangeably mountable to the saddlebag mounting bracket, the product comprising:

10 a saddlebox for holding the animal, the saddlebox comprising:

15 an exposed section,  
the exposed section for exposing the animal to the outside environment;

20 a sheltered section,  
the sheltered section for sheltering the animal from the outside environment;

25 the exposed section and the sheltered section being connected together so that the animal can move autonomously from the exposed section to the sheltered section and so that the animal can move autonomously from the sheltered section to the exposed section, while the product is in use;

30 mounting means for mounting the product to the cycle at the saddlebag position, the mounting means being configured to enable the saddlebox to mount to the commercially-available saddlebag bracket that is pre-attached to the cycle, interchangeably with the commercially-available saddlebag cargo container;

35 the mounting means comprising:

a hook for hooking to the commercially-available saddlebag bracket, and  
a saddlebox fastener,  
the saddlebox fastener being configured to connect to a bracket fastener, the bracket fastener being part of the commercially-available saddlebag bracket.

8. The animal carrier product of claim 7 wherein the saddlebox further comprises:

5 a window,  
the window being connected to the exposed section;  
the window being substantially transparent;  
the window enabling the animal to view the outside environment.

9. The animal carrier product of claim 7 wherein the product further comprises:

10 a deflector,  
the deflector being connected to the product so that the deflector deflects direct sunlight and deflects strong wind from entering the exposed section.

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